Fencing at Indo-Bangladesh Border

360. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fencing on India's border with Bangladesh is currently being undertaken;

(b) if so, the details of the project and its status so far;

(c) whether Government have received any objections to fencing from the Government of Bangladesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to resolve the objections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has sanctioned construction of 3286 kms. of fence along Indo-Bangladesh border. Out of this 2129 kms. has been erected till 31st January, 2006.

(c) to (e) The Bangladesh Rifles has been objecting construction of border fence within 150 yards of the international border on the plea that construction of fence is a defensive structure. Secondly, it violates provisions of Joint Indo-Bangladesh Guidelines for Border Authorities-1975. The Government of India has been trying persistently to convince Bangladesh Government that the erection of border fence does not violate the Joint Indo-Bangladesh Guidelines for Border Authorities-1975 as the border fence is mutually beneficial for both the countries in curbing trans-border crimes.

Pension to widows of freedom fighters

361. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the pension is not being given to widows of freedom fighters in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the number of proposals received from the State of Andhra Pradesh especially for giving pension to the widows of freedom fighters;

(d) the number of proposals cleared till now;

(e) the time by when all the requests are likely to be cleared; and

(f) the total number of widows getting freedom fighter pension in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Cases for transfer of dependent family pension to widows do not come to Government of India. The procedure for transfer of family pension in the name of eligible dependents (widow/widower, unmarried and unemployed daughters, mother and father) of deceased freedom fighter pensioners has been decentralized with effect from 01-05-1992. The Pension Disbursing Authorities (Public Sector Bank Branches and Government Treasuries) have been authorized to transfer dependent family pension to the eligible dependents at their level.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No statistics relating to the number of widows who are getting pension are maintained.

Extraordinary pattern of investments in districts/villages near Bangladesh borders

362. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken cognizance of the extra ordinary pattern of investments and in flow of funds in the districts and villages near the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bangladesh border;

(b) what is Government's assessment of such patterns have any linkage with Naxal groups and fundamentalist groups within and out of country been found in this respect;